

REC'D 14 FEB 2005
WIPO PCT



IB/2004/03908

Sertifikaat

Certificate

REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

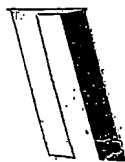
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PATENT KANTOOR
DEPARTEMENT VAN HANDEL
EN NYWERHEID

PATENT OFFICE
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND
INDUSTRY

Hiermee word gesertifiseer dat
This is to certify that

The documents attached hereto, are true copies of the Application
Form, Provisional Specification and Drawings of Patent Application
No. 2003/9335 filed on the 1 December 2003 in the name of
BLELOCH JOHN ANDREW and entitled: " BICYCLE SADDLE ".

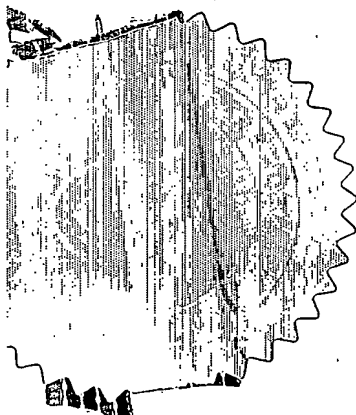


Geteken te
Signed at **PRETORIA**

in die Republiek van Suid-Afrika, hierdie
in the Republic of South Africa, this

8
dag van
February 2005
day of

Registrar of Patents



**PRIORITY
DOCUMENT**

SUBMITTED OR TRANSMITTED IN
COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 17.1(a) OR (b)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PATENTS ACT, 1978

REGISTER OF PATENTS

OFFICIAL APPLICATION NO.		LODGING DATE : PROVISIONAL		ACCEPTANCE DATE	
21	01 2003/9335	22	1 December 2003	43	
INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION		LODGING DATE : COMPLETE		GRANTED DATE	
51		23			
FULL NAME(S) OF APPLICANT(S) / PATENTEE(S)					
71	BLELOCH, John Andrew				
APPLICANTS SUBSTITUTED :				DATE REGISTERED	
71					
ASSIGNEE(S)				DATE REGISTERED	
71					
FULL NAME(S) OF INVENTOR(S)					
72	BLELOCH, John Andrew				
PRIORITY CLAIMED		COUNTRY		NUMBER	
N.B. Use International abbreviation for country. (See Schedule 4)		33		31	
TITLE OF INVENTION					
54	BICYCLE SADDLE				
ADDRESS OF APPLICANT(S) / PATENTEE(S)					
87 Dundalk Avenue Parkview 2193 South Africa					
ADDRESS FOR SERVICE					
74	Bowman Gilfillan Inc. (John & Kernick) PO Box 3511, Halfway House, 1685, Republic of South Africa Kernick House, Waterfall Office Park, Bekker Road, Midrand, Republic of South Africa				REF P15567ZA00
PATENT OF ADDITION NO.		DATE OF ANY CHANGE			
61					
FRESH APPLICATION BASED ON		DATE OF ANY CHANGE			

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PATENTS ACT, 1978

APPLICATION FOR A PATENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

(Section 30 (1) - Regulation 22)

The grant of a patent is hereby requested by the undermentioned applicant on the basis of the present application filed in duplicate. REPUBLIEK VAN SUID AFRIKA

OFFICIAL APPLICATION NO

AGENT'S REFERENCE

21 01 2003/9335

P15567ZA00

FULL NAME(S) OF APPLICANT(S)

BLELOCH, John Andrew

ADDRESS(ES) OF APPLICANT(S)

87 Dundalk Avenue
Parkview
2193
South Africa

TITLE OF INVENTION

BICYCLE SADDLE

THE APPLICANT CLAIMS PRIORITY AS SET OUT ON THE ACCOMPANYING FORM P2
The earliest priority claimed isTHIS APPLICATION IS FOR A PATENT OF
ADDITION TO PATENT APPLICATION NO.

21 01

THIS APPLICATION IS FRESH APPLICATION IN TERMS
OF SECTION 37 AND BASED ON APPLICATION NO.

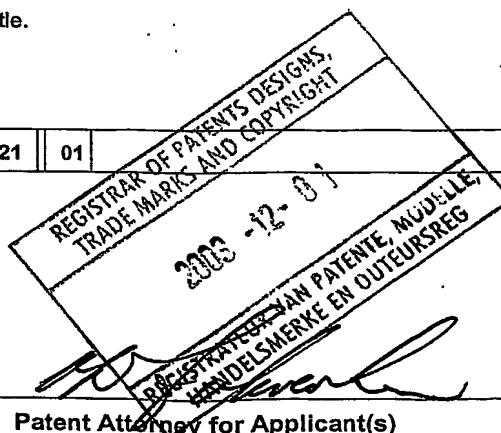
21 01

THIS APPLICATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY :

- | | | |
|---|-----|--|
| x | 1a | A single copy of a provisional specification of 5 pages. |
| | 1b | Two copies of a complete specification of pages. |
| | 2a | Informal drawings of sheets. |
| x | 2b | Formal drawings of 2 sheets. |
| | 3 | Publication particulars and abstract (form P8 in duplicate). |
| | 4 | A copy of figure of the drawings for the abstract. |
| | 5 | Assignment of invention (from the inventors) or other evidence of title. |
| | 6 | Certified priority document(s). |
| | 7 | Translation of priority document(s). |
| | 8 | Assignment of priority rights. |
| | 9 | A copy of form P2 and a specification of S.A. Patent Application. |
| x | 10 | A declaration and power of attorney on form P3. |
| | 11 | Request for ante-dating on form P4. |
| | 12 | Request for classification on form P9. |
| | 13a | Request for delay of acceptance on form P4. |
| | 13b | |

DATED 1 December 2003

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE

Bowman Gilfillan Inc. (John & Kernick)
P O Box 3511, Halfway House, 1685
Republic of South Africa
Kernick House, Waterfall Office Park,
Bekker Road, Midrand, Republic of South Africa

Patent Attorney for Applicant(s)

RECEIVED

OFFICIAL DATE STAMP

REGISTRAR OF PATENTS

BOWMAN GILFILLAN INC. (JOHN & KERNICK)
Midrand

Form P.6

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PATENTS ACT, 1978

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION
(Section 30 (1) - Regulation 27)

OFFICIAL APPLICATION NO.			LODGING DATE		AGENT'S REFERENCE
21	01	20 03 / 93 35	22	1 December 2003	P15567ZA00

FULL NAME(S) OF APPLICANT(S)

71	BLELOCH, John Andrew
----	----------------------

FULL NAME(S) OF INVENTOR(S)

72	BLELOCH, John Andrew
----	----------------------

TITLE OF INVENTION

54	BICYCLE SADDLE
----	----------------

BICYCLE SADDLE

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a bicycle saddle and more particularly to saddles which are ergonomically designed.

BACKGROUND TO THE INVENTION

Saddles have been proposed which permit the load carrying areas to be confined to those over and around the ischial tuberosities of the cyclist. This has greatly reduced the discomfort of the conventional bicycle saddle.

However the proposed saddle has also deprived the cyclist of a certain amount of lateral stability particularly when negotiating corners and bends during cycling.

OBJECT OF THE INVENTION

It is the object of the present invention to provide a saddle which provides the advantages of both the proposed and conventional saddles.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly there is provided by this invention a bicycle saddle having a seat portion with load supporting surfaces spaced to bridge the ischial tuberosity of a cyclist and a nose pointing forwardly between the load supporting surfaces, the nose being longitudinally and laterally rigid.

Further features of the invention provide for the nose portion to be resiliently connected to the seat, for the resistance to be provided by a spring plate of shallow depth compared to its width, and for the nose section to be hinged to the seat.

A further feature of this invention provides for the nose section to be connected to the seat by a tension spring and for the spring to include means for varying its tension.

The invention also provides for the plate to be secured to the frame of the seat and for the saddle cover material to allow free flexibility of the plate in the longitudinal plane of the bicycle.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

These and other features of the invention will become apparent from the following description of one example below with reference to the accompanying drawings in which

Figures 1 and 2 are respectively cross sectional and side elevations of the saddle; and

Figure 3 shows the saddle in its flexible condition.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The saddle 1 illustrated has a seat section 2 which will preferably but not essentially have the same structure as that described in the complete specification of South African Patent No. 99/2481 which specification is incorporated herein in its entirety by reference.

That seat section 2 and the attachment to its support and a bicycle need not be described in more detail in this specification.

The support 3 for the seat section 2 has secured thereto a spring plate 4. This plate 4 is secured at end 5 to the seat section support and has a cantilevered forwardly extending end 6.

The plate 4 is shown to have a shallow depth indicated at 7 but a substantial width indicated at 8. The plate 4 is preferably made of suitable spring steel but it will be appreciated that other materials can be used which will provide similar lateral support and longitudinally flexibility.

It will be appreciated that the plate has a predetermined fixed resilience and this is not always desirable. The nose section should flex to meet the variable requirements of cyclists. To provide this for different cyclists additional resilient resistance can be provided by the inclusion of a tension spring 9 between the operatively upper parts of the nose section 10 and seat section 2. The anchor assembly 11 within the seat portion 2 includes a screw 11 which enables the tension of spring 9 to be adjusted as required.

At least the nose section 10 of the saddle 1 has an outer resilient covering similar to that of section 2. These coverings are however separate but they may have an outer elastic or foldable sheath (not shown) which enables the nose section 9 to flex relative to the seat section 4 as shown in Figure 3 but without resulting in the gap 12 between the sections.

In use the saddle has the advantages of that described in the specification of Patent Number 99/2481.

It has the additional advantages of the stability of the conventional fixed nose saddle providing balance to the cyclist. However the downward resilient flexibility

under low pressure prevents the discomfort, and sometimes serious damage to the soft tissue to the pelvic outlet area of the cyclist. The combination of the spring plate 4 and tension spring 9 enables the benefits of the flexibility to be optimized.

The invention thus provides a saddle which is both safe and comfortable in use.

It will however be appreciated that the saddle may be varied in many ways from the example described without departing from the scope of the invention. For example the flexible movement of the nose section can be obtained using a hinge assembly biased to hold the nose in its normal position but allowing the hinge to open when downward pressure is exerted on the nose.

DATED THIS 1st DAY OF DECEMBER 2003


BOWMAN GILFILLAN INC
JOHN & KERNICK
FOR THE APPLICANT

FIG 1

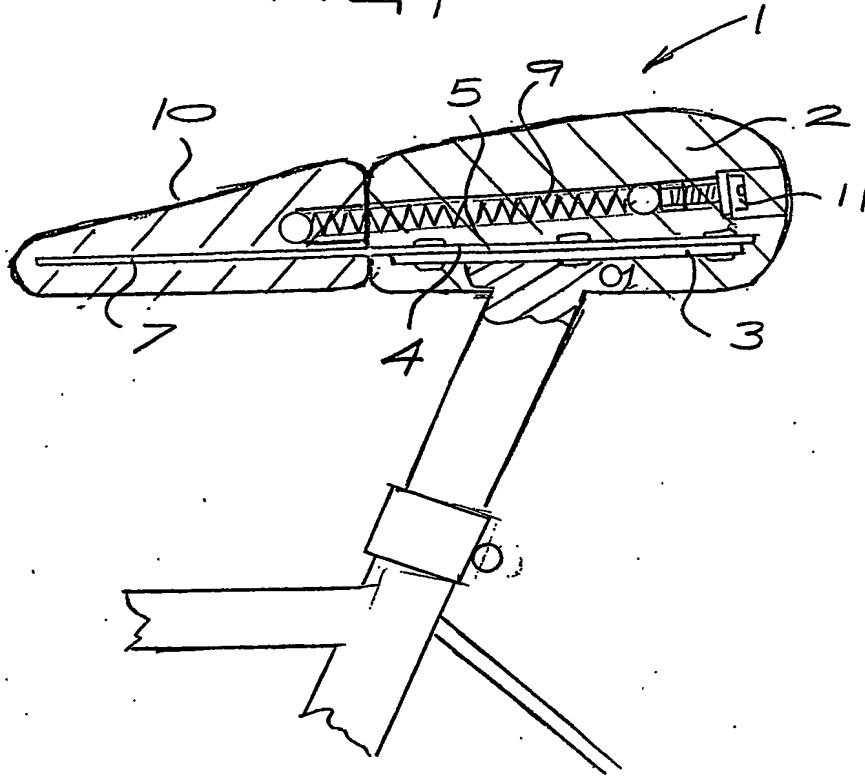
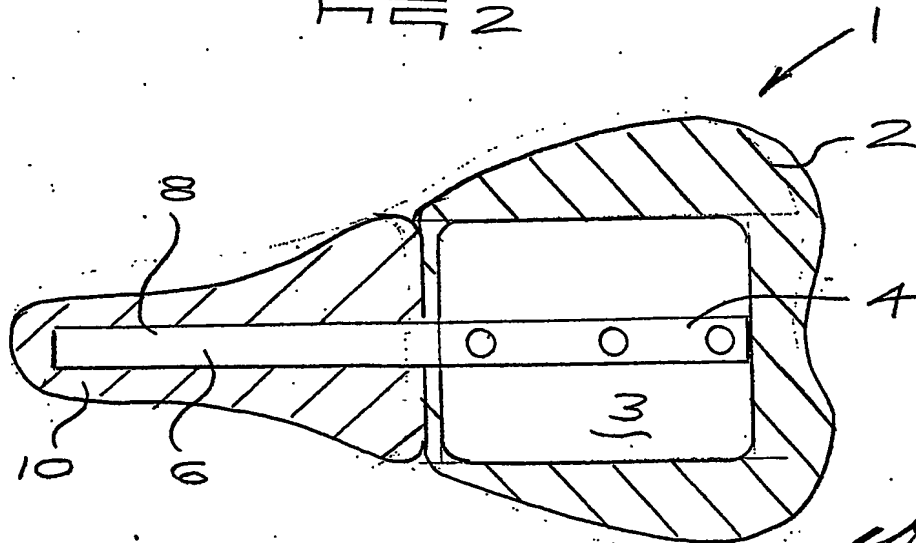
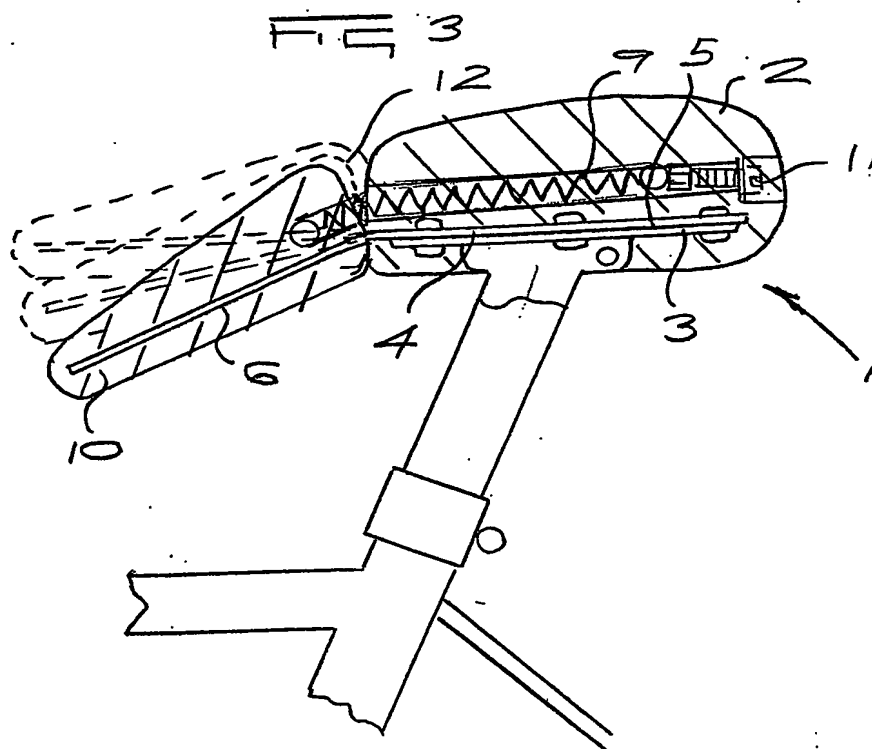


FIG 2



John & Kernick
BOWMAN GILFILLAN INC
JOHN & KERNICK
FOR THE APPLICANT



[Signature]
BOWMAN GILFILLAN INC
JOHN & KERNICK
FOR THE APPLICANT